15. The need for introducing a new standard measure for paddy, etc., in Nanjanad making one kotta equivalent to $7\frac{1}{7}$ paras.

Mr. V. Tiruchittambalam Pillai (Member, Tovala Taluk) said that the people of Nanjanad were put to considerable hardship, as the rules introduced by Government at the time of the Settlement to secure uniformity in the measurements of land and grain had not been extended to Nanjanad. About 990 M. E., owing to the scarcity of coin, Government began to realise half the paddy tax in money at the rate of six chackrams per para. Kotta, marakal and padi were the grain measures then in use in Nanjanad, and one kotta was declared equivalent to 9 paras and $3\frac{5}{8}$ edangalies according to the Vengalapara then in use.

According to G. O's Nos. D. 2779 and 2724, dated the 1st July 1915, one Vengalapara was equal to 640 cubic inches. In 1061, the *para* was, for purposes of Settlement, declared to be equal to 800 cubic inches. When, in 1082, the remaining one-half of the paddy tax was ordered to be commuted into money at eleven chuckrams per para, Government, without appreciating the full importance of the question, laid down that one Nanjanad kotta was equivalent to 8 paras and $6\frac{1}{2}$ edangalies (according to the Settlement para of 800 cubic inches). In the Rules issued under the Weights and Measures Regulation, VI of 1085, the Nanjanad kotta was declared as equivalent to 9 paras $3\frac{5}{8}$ edangalies calculated at the rate of 800 cubic inches=a para. Subsequently, the tenants of Sri Pandaravagai lands paying the tax in kind protested against this rate of conversion; and recently Government had ordered that the tax be realised at the rate of 8 paras $6\frac{1}{2}$ edangalies for one kotta as in the case of Sirkar lands. That had not given complete satisfaction to the people.

For purposes of Settlement, one Settlement para of wet land had been taken as equal to 14 cents, and lands of the first *tharam* were assessed at $10\frac{1}{2}$ times the quantity of seed required. In calculation, fractions less than one-half were neglected by Government, and a deduction of one-tenth was made in the case of wet lands, on account of bunds, &c. An acre was thus taken to represent $7\frac{1}{7}$ paras of land except in Nanjanad and Shencottah and bore an assessment of 75 paras of paddy. One kotta was equivalent to one acre, and $10\frac{1}{2}$ kottas should thus be equal to 75 paras, or one kotta was equal to 7 paras roughly. A Vengalapara measured only 640 cubic inches and it had been accepted that one kotta was equal to 9 paras $3\frac{5}{8}$ edangalies. The Nanjanad kotta therefore when converted into the Settlement para of 800 cubic inches $=640 \times 749/80 \times 800 = 7\frac{42}{100}$ paras. Thus, on no account could a kotta be taken as equivalent to more than 7 paras. The representations on the subject by Mr. Sivathanu Pillai at the 14th session of the Assembly deserved consideration. Though standard weights and measures had been introduced by law, they were not being rigidly enforced. Traders were using weights and measures which did not conform to the standards prescribed. Stringent orders should be issued to enforce the standard weights and measures.

Dewan's reply.—It is not possible for me to give a definite reply without studying the previous literature on the subject.

16. The need for constituting Kayankulam into a separate taluk.

Sahib Bahadur N. Siddick Sait (Member, Municipal Council, Kayankulam) said that the historic importance of the place had not received proper recognition. The town of Kayankulam was at present within the jurisdiction of three different taluks *viz.* Karunagapalli, Kartikapalli and Mavelikara. The difficulties entailed thereby in the transaction of Government business and treasury remittances were patent. This also affected the litigant public as it led to the distribution of cases among the various Courts. The transfer of the Karunagapalli Magistrate's Court to Kayankulam, urged in the past, would mitigate the hardship entailed by the local Magistrate being also the President of the Municipality. He considered that a separate taluk shoud be formed consisting of Krishnapuram, Pudupalli and Perinad pakuthies from the Karunagapalli taluk; of Pathiyur, Keerikad, Arattupuzha and Kanthallur pakuthies from the Kartikapalli taluk; and of Bharanikavu, Vallikunnam, Thamaracolam and

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